

ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	INL-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EAP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	OIGO-00
	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	H-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00
	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00	M-00	NEA-00	DCP-00	NSAE-00
	OIC-00	OMB-00	NIMA-00	PA-00	PM-00	GIWI-00	PRS-00
	P-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	FMP-00
	SCRS-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	NFAT-00
	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/001W				

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FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2321

INFO AMEMBASSY ABUJA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

DIA WASHINGTON DC

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP/ISA/AFR/INR//

JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC

CDR USEUCOM INTEL VAIHINGEN GE//ECJ2/ECJ3/ECJ4/ECJ5//

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR AF, AF/C, AF/RSA FOR BITTRICK, KENNY; INR, DRL; P/M; DEFENSE FOR TOOMEY, IKINS, LANGDORF; NSC FOR SWAYNE; LONDON AND PARIS FOR AFRICAWATCHERS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [CD](#)

SUBJECT: CHAD: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FOR REGIONAL MILITARY TRAINING EXERCISE BAHR EL-GAZEL

**11.** (SBU) Summary: Post seeks Department support for a military contribution for the Chadian-hosted regional military exercise Bahr El-Gazel from November 10-23, possibly through ACOTA or another State-funded program. The exercise was developed to respond to the African Union's call on each of the continent's five regions to conduct training to enhance interoperability for peacekeeping missions. Our political commitment to improving these capabilities in the region would be advanced significantly if concrete support for this training, such as provision of mobile field hospitals, rations, or cots, could be provided. The exercise also is an opportunity to emphasize the importance that we place on our growing military-military relationship with Chad and gives the Chadians an opportunity to demonstrate how they have benefited from ongoing U.S. training. End Summary.

**12.** (SBU) The Chadian military is requesting U.S. assistance for a Central African regional military exercise, "Bahr El-Gazel 2005." The Chadians have requested two field clinics, 4,000 combat rations; 1,000 field cots; 40 large tents; 1,000 sleeping bags; 1,000 sets of fatigue uniforms; and 10 modular field kitchens.

**13.** (SBU) Bahr El-Gazel 2005 was developed by Central African countries to respond to the African Union's mandate for the continent's five regions to each develop regional military and peacekeeping capability. The exercise will include 1500 soldiers from Chad, Central African Republic Equatorial Guinea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Congo-Brazzaville, Burundi, Rwanda, Angola, Gabon, and Cameroon from November 10 to 23. The exercise scenario is a border regional conflict, resulting in instability and refugee flows. The operational component includes forward deployments of units to separate warring factions and begin the in-processing and protection of refugees and displaced persons. Chad was selected to host the exercise to provide the neighboring militaries with a desert training environment. An estimated 2,500 Chadian soldiers will participate. The French military is making a contribution to the exercise.

**14.** (SBU) Comment: Post believes it is important to respond positively with material support for this training exercise and would appreciate a response from Washington within the

next two weeks. Several African francophone heads of state are expected to attend the opening of the exercise. A tangible U.S. contribution will boost our visibility and credibility as a reliable military partner in Central Africa.

A contribution also enhances our growing military-military relationship with Chad, which has become an increasingly important partner in Darfur and in the global war on terror. The training might also help countries that are participating or considering participation in the African Union mission in Darfur. This is an opportunity to support Chad's leadership role in a regional exercise of significant magnitude taking place in a difficult, desert environment. Any support we could provide would be welcomed. End Comment.

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